DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII





## STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands Post Office Box 621 Honolulu, Hawaii 96809

> Testimony of SUZANNE D. CASE Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on JUDICIARY

Friday, February 25, 2022 9:30 a.m. Via Videoconference

### In consideration of SENATE BILL 2764, SENATE DRAFT 1 RELATING TO SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS

Senate Bill 2764, Senate Draft 1 proposes to expand exclusions from the definition of "development" under Section 205A-22, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as it applies to special management areas to reduce the need for special management area permits for certain activities. The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports the bill.

Many parts of the State fall both within special management areas and the State Land Use Conservation District, and land uses in these areas might require both Special Management Area Permits and Conservation District Use Permits.

The Department appreciates that this bill will exclude from the definition of "development" invasive species control and the installation of fencing for invasive species control or the preservation of native habitats. The Department believes that this will help facilitate projects that are intended to preserve and protect the State's natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

## SUZANNE D. CASE CHAIRPERSON BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA

M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

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CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
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HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS



# STATE OF HAWAII OFFICE OF PLANNING & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

DAVID Y. IGE

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## Statement of MARY ALICE EVANS

Director, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development before the

#### SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Friday, February 25, 2022 9:30 AM State Capitol, Via Videoconference

## in consideration of SB 2764 SD1 RELATING TO SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS.

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary.

We appreciate the amendments made by the prior committee. The purpose for the inclusion of activities that are considered excluded "development" under Hawaii Revised Statutes § 205A-22 is to streamline the special management area (SMA) permitting procedures for those proposed actions that have no adverse environmental impacts on the SMAs.

As the lead agency of the Hawaii Coastal Zone Management Program, the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development respectfully **supports SB 2764 SD1**, and **recommends** the following **amendments** to address additional activities and proposed clarifications. Deletions are stricken and bracketed, and additions are underlined for the following sections:

- (17) Installation, maintenance, repair, and replacement of public pedestrian and bicycle facilities, including sidewalks, paths, bikeways, crosswalks, stairs, ramps, <u>traffic control barriers</u>, signs, signals, and associated improvements;
- (19) Installation of fencing, including associated improvements and incidental structures, for invasive species control or preservation of native habitats on conservation land; [and]
- (20) Installation, maintenance, repair, and replacement of lighting, fixtures, and equipment to establish compliance with current standards at existing public [recreational] facilities; and

(21)	Installation, maintenance, repair, and	eplacement	of security	y measures,	including
	fencing, to existing public facilities;				

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Council Chair Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
Gabe Johnson
Kelly Takaya King
Michael J. Molina
Tamara Paltin
Shane M. Sinenci
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

Director of Council Services

Deputy Director of Council Services David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

### COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY OF MAUI 200 S. HIGH STREET WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793 www.MauiCounty.us

February 23, 2022

TO: Committee on Judiciary

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair

Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair

FROM: Kelly Takaya King, Maui County Councilmember

HEARING: February 25, 2022 at 9:30 a.m., Via Videoconference

SUBJECT: Testimony in support of SB2764 SD1 RELATING TO SPECIAL

MANAGEMENT AREAS

Dear Honorable Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Committee Members,

I am in support of SB2764 SD1 which would amend the definition of "development" in the context of special management areas. The current law's broad definition of "development" results in even relatively minor, routine or ancillary improvements having to undergo intensely rigorous review which often results in unnecessary and unwarranted delay and expense.

While special management area regulations serve an important purpose, the proposed amendments to the law would be beneficial to community improvements. The targeted exclusions would allow projects including repairs and improvements to sidewalks and bicycle lanes, removal of dilapidated seawalls, garbage removal, certain measures to control invasive weeds and species, improvements to lighting, inspections and maintenance of utilities and equipment, and others to be exempt from the special management area regulations.

I have been pressing for our county Department of Public Works to install sidewalks in the South Maui District that have been promised for years, and I am told that the holdup has to do with the challenges imposed by the current

February 23, 2022 Page 2

law. I would like to see the impediments to this and other relatively minor improvements removed, and this bill will accomplish that.

Please pass SB2764 SD1.

Mahalo nui loa,

Kelly 7. King

Kelly Takaya King, Maui County Councilmember

Chair, Climate Action, Resilience and Environment Committee



### Hawai'i State Association of Counties (HSAC)

Counties of Kaua'i, Maui, Hawai'i, and City & County of Honolulu

Website: hawaiicounties.org | Email: hsac@hawaiicounties.org



## Testimony of the **Hawai'i State Association of Counties**

on

S.B. No. 2764, S.D.1

### Relating to Special Management Areas.

Committee on Judiciary Friday, February 25, 2022, 9:30 a.m.

The Hawai'i State Association of Counties (HSAC) supports S.B. 2764, S.D.1, with amendments. S.B. 2764, S.D.1, expands the exclusions from what is considered "development" in the special management area to include:

- Public pedestrian and bicycle facilities;
- Trash removal or invasive vegetation removal;
- Installation of fencing; and
- Installation, maintenance, repair, and replacement of lighting fixtures and equipment at public recreational facilities.

The proposed amendments are meant to "streamline the special management area permitting procedures for ...proposed actions *that have no adverse environmental impacts on the SMAs.*"

HSAC supports the exemptions proposed in S.B. 2764, S.D.1, and requests that it be further amended to exempt from the definition of "development" single-family residences less than 5,000 square feet of floor area not:

- Situated on a shoreline parcel;
- A parcel impacted by waves, storm surges, high tide, or shoreline erosion; or
- Part of a larger development.

With the anticipated changes to sea levels and coastal erosion caused by climate change, the proposed change to 5,000 square feet from 7,500 square feet will allow the county planning authority to review more residential development in the special management area for conformance with the development guidelines for the area.

The Hawai'i State Association of Counties strongly supports S.B. 2764, S.D.1, with the proposed amendment, and requests your favorable consideration of this measure.